



THE STAFFORD NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2019

CITY OF STAFFORD, TEXAS

VOL 40 ISSUE 2

ELECTIONS SET FOR MAY 4, 2019

MAYOR, CITY COUNCIL AND SCHOOL BOARD ELECTIONS

There is significant interest in the 2019 City Officers election for Mayor and one City Council position. Election Day is Saturday, May 4th at City Hall, from 7am to 7pm.

Early voting will take place at Stafford City Hall and the Stafford Municipal School District Administration Building, beginning April 22nd through April 30th, 2019. The hours for early voting on Monday, April 22nd through Saturday, April 27th is from 8am to 5pm, with the hours extended on Monday and Tuesday April 29th and April 30th from 7am to 7pm.

No one challenged Councilmember Virginia Rosas seeking position 3 for three years nor Councilmember Wen Guerra for position 2 for 2 years, thus they are unopposed on the ballot. Seeking the Office of the Mayor, based on their position on the ballot: Adam "Bob Sugar" Sanchez, Mayor Leonard Scarcella and Councilmember A.J. Honore. Running for the two year Council Position 1 are Auturo Jackson, Alice Chen and Esther De Ipolyi.

This is a most important election to determine the future of this City. You are urged to come out and vote.

SPRING CLEAN UP—2019

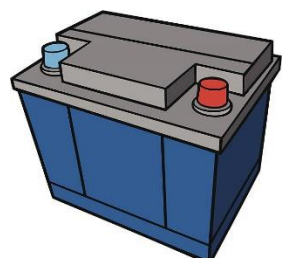
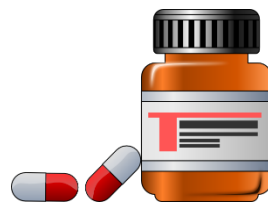
There will be a new look to the City Spring Clean-Up this year. As a result of a new contract for keeping the streets and right of ways clean and for safety considerations the activities for this event have changed. The event is set for Saturday, April 13, 2019 from 10am to 1pm. The focus of this clean-up is to allow citizens to bring items which they would like to dispose of to City Hall, including: Computers/laptops; TV's; Printers; Monitors; Cell phones; E-Waste and Pharmaceutical prescriptions for disposal. Other items including refrigerators/freezers drained of coolant and other bulk items will be collected at your curbside. They must be placed at curbside no later than 7am on Saturday, April 13th.

Arrangements for old tire collection and or batteries will be handled as in previous years. For batteries citizens are urged to contact: Stafford Auto Supply, 2424 S. Main (281-499-1041) for battery disposal; for old tires (up to ten tires) you should contact Firestone Tires, 515 FM 1092 (281-969-1547) for tire disposal. Should you have more than 10 tires for disposal, please call Marcia Fouts at 281-261-3941.

At City Hall there will be a Pro-Shred truck for onsite document shredding (up to 5 boxes). RPC Global will collect all your unwanted and inoperable electronic equipment items. WCA will still operate trucks to collect the bulk items left at the curbside. Your efforts to keep Stafford clean and sparkling are applauded and most appreciated.



[courtesy: Starweekly.com.au]



SATURDAY, APRIL 13, 2019 10:00 A.M. – 1:00 P.M.

EVENT LOCATION:

CITY OF STAFFORD – CITY HALL PARKING LOT
2610 SOUTH MAIN ST
STAFFORD, TX, 77477



STAFFORD DEVELOPING TIMES

Numerous activities to elevate the City are proceeding as follows:



LANDSCAPING – Contractors have been hired to refurbish the landscaping along US90A and IH59. They are diligently working to remove trash trees, dead shrubs and trim and replant trees to provide a clean crisp appearance as we enter the growing season.



MONUMENTS – One of the most attractive and notable features of this City are its monuments on US90 and IH59. The Stafford Economic Development Corporation has approved funding to refurbish these monuments, which include the installation of new lighting, weather proofing and repainting. This will occur throughout the summer. The monument on US90A will be used as a showcase for a new style LED lighting.



POLICE STATION ANNEX – The City of Stafford Police Department received approval in late 2018 for construction of an annex to provide additional space for the expanded workforce. Webber Commercial Construction was awarded the bid and will to begin construction within the 2nd quarter of this year.



FIRE STATION #2 & FIRE ADMINISTRATION BUILDING – The Stafford Fire Department has recently been growing at a rate faster than existing facilities can house them. City Council approved the construction of a new Fire Station and Administration for Fire Station #2, on Mula Rd. Webber Commercial Construction was also awarded the contract. The construction on this project will begin this spring with completion anticipated by the end of the year.



STAFFORD SUMMER ACTIVITIES SET



POOL HOURS AND FEES

The 2019 pool season opens on **Saturday, May 25th** and runs through **Monday, September 2nd**. The pool is closed on Mondays (non-holidays). All Stafford residents can obtain a pool/recreation pass for \$15.00 for the entire 2019 season. The ‘Family Pass’ for Stafford residents of up to 4 family members is \$15.00 for each member and each additional family member will be at a fee of \$10.00 each.

SWIM LESSONS: Swim lessons are offered for ages 4 through adult. Sign up begins on May 25th either in person at the pool or by calling 281-499-8783.

STAFFORD SWIM TEAM: Online registration is currently open at www.staffordstingrays.swimtopia.com. You can also register by emailing Yvettehinojosa@yahoo.com.

SUMMER RECREATION PROGRAM

SMSD in conjunction with the City of Stafford will again have a summer recreation program, offering the use of the Spartan Red Gym Weight Room. Times and dates will be announced. To enter the gym you must present the pool/recreation pass – each time, No exceptions. Children under 10 years of age must be accompanied by an adult. All Pool/Gym Passes shall be purchased at the City Pool during regular operating hours. For more information you can contact the SMSD Athletic Department at 281-208-6140.



COMMUNITY BULLETIN

ELECTION VOTING INFORMATION

EARLY VOTING

Monday April 22 – Saturday, April 27, 2019 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Monday and Tuesday, April 29- April 30, 2019 7:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.

ELECTION DAY

Saturday, May 4, 2019 7:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.

STAFFORD CENTRE EVENTS

April

19th –Children’s Cancer Research presents “Yakeen Ka Safar”

27th – International Plastic Model Society “Model Mania”

May

3rd -4th Quilt Show

5th – Dawali Bazaar Consumer show

7th – SMSD Band Concert

8th – SMSD Athletic Banquet

9th – Ducks unlimited Bellaire Chapter Banquet

17th – 18th – Bead Market Consumer show

19th – Fort Bend Symphony “The Music Man”

24th – Blake Vogt Magic/Comedy show

June

14th – Chad Prather Comedy Show

16th – Bathiya Jayakody & Santhush

Weeraman concert

28th – Indo American Association Concert

29th – Alphalete Athletic Body Building

Competition



STOP THE BLEED TRAINING

National Stop the Bleed Month is in **May**. Dates for this Official Stop the Bleed Program will be announced shortly. The City of Stafford Emergency Management and Fire Department have become a National Association of EMT’s (NAEMT) Training Center and an American Heart Association (AHA) Training site. Being a training center will allow instructors at the Stafford Fire Department to teach first responders and the community in various skill sets required for multiple levels of incidents. The Stop The Bleed Program will teach the community how to respond in an incident where there are injuries or life threatening bleeding.

WATCH FOR FUTURE DATES & LOCATIONS FOR TRAINING BEING OFFERED BY STAFFORD FIRE DEPARTMENT

FIRE AND BURGLAR ALARM FEES

Burglar/Fire Alarm Fees

Residential Alarm Registration - \$30.00

Commerical Burglar Alarm Registration - \$100.00

Commercial Fire Alarm Registration - \$100.00

False Alarm Fees

Three (3) free allowed per calendar year

PD 4-7: \$50.00 each / Fire: 4-7 \$175.00 each

PD 8+: \$100.00 each / Fire: 8+ \$250.00 each

Pet Registrations

City Ordinance No:1101 states that any dog or cat kept, over four months of age harbored or maintained by their owner in the City, shall be vaccinated and registred with a licensed vetinarian.

Fees: \$2.00 per dog or cat. Bring the animal’s current vaccination certificate to City Hall. All pet registrations expire December 31st.

TRASH PICK UP AND TREE LIMB PICK UP

Tree Limb Pick-Up: First Mondays of and January, April, July and October.

Residential Trash Pick-Up: Monday & Thursday or Tuesday & Friday. There will be **NO TRASH PICK UP on a Holiday. Your trash will be collected on your **next scheduled** pick up day.**

A LETTER FROM THE MAYOR

BENEFICIAL LEGISLATION ADVANCES

With the Texas Legislature currently in session, we are cautiously optimistic, and encouraged, that Stafford could reap substantial benefits from legislation under consideration. One most important bill moving forward would allow our City to receive the sales tax on internet transactions. This is a direct result of a U.S. Supreme Court decision handed down last June. I began working with our legislative consultant literally the day the decision was announced by the Court to get the necessary legislation before the Texas State Comptroller and our legislators as soon as possible. In past years and before this decision, most internet sales transactions went untaxed, thus depriving the state and cities of substantial revenues. Now these are taxable, provided the state legislates appropriate authority to collect the tax. In our case, this could be substantial. We have submitted written testimony urging the bill's passage. If approved by both the Texas Senate and House, and signed by the Governor, it would allow us to start receiving this income before the end of the year. The best estimate is it could generate around a million dollars annually for the City.

Our lobbyist, Mr. John Pitts, is pleased with the progress of the legislation. If all goes as hoped, the bill will be on the Governor's desk by the end of May, when the legislative session ends. With the signature by the state's Chief Executive Officer, the Comptroller's office can begin immediate implementation of the new law. We will keep you informed of developments.

Respectfully submitted,
Leonard Scarcella, Mayor

STAFFORD ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION NEWS

2019 is off to a great start! New businesses expected to open in the next couple of months in The Grid on the West Airport side include McAlister's Deli, Great Clips and a My Eyelab location. The Kirkwood side will soon see construction begin on the Whiskey Cake Kitchen and Bar, the In-And-Out Burger, Pluckers Wing Bar and Outback Steakhouse.

The new apartments – 1879 @The Grid - are planning to open phase one near the end of the second quarter and are already preleasing at the location. They are a beautiful addition to that area and we are excited to have some new Stafford residents.

We are also excited to have some other new restaurants in Stafford or opening soon. Republic BBQ recently opened inside Redneck Country Club on West Airport and Popeye's Louisiana Kitchen recently opened on Highway 90 near Promenade and if you haven't tried them yet, you should! El Tiempo Mexican Cantina is under construction in the former Texas Land and Cattle in The Fountains at Hwy. 59 and Fountain Lakes Drive with an opening date to be announced soon! Welcome to our incredible community and we look forward to many years of success!

Landscaping upgrades continue along Highway 90 with both clearing out and planting of new plants. With some warm weather in our future, we should be seeing these new plantings bloom and prosper as they continue to enlighten those commuters that travel this area on a daily basis. The IH59/69 corridor is seeing a little slower progress as we continue to work with TxDot while waiting for the trees to 'green up' so we can better see what changes to make. The plan is to prune some of the existing areas while adding in some new plantings to help maximize our commitment to beautifying our great city. We are looking forward to seeing all the beautiful areas in our community as spring unfolds.

As is always our commitment to the citizens, we will continue to work to make Stafford a great place to live, work and play!

Respectfully submitted as the opinion of:
Wen Guerra, President